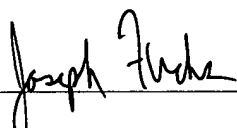
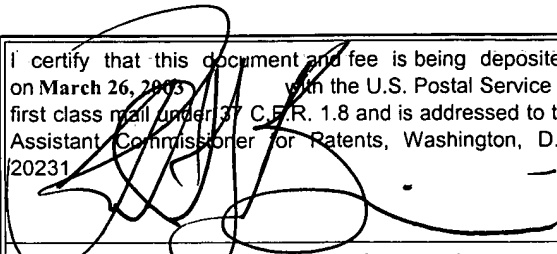
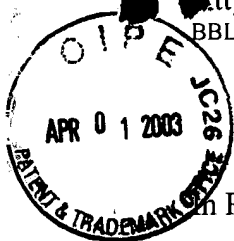


|   |                                       |                                    |                                |                                |                   |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b><br>Applicant(s): <b>Di .g et al.</b>   |                                       |                                    |                                | Docket No.<br><b>NPVC-5797</b> |                   |
| Serial No.<br><b>09/939,294</b>   | Filing Date<br><b>August 24, 2001</b> | Examiner<br><b>Sandra M. Nolan</b> | Group Art Unit<br><b>1772</b>  |                                |                   |
| Invention: <b>METHOD AND PROCESS FOR ENHANCING PROPERTIES AND MEDICAL TUBING PERFORMANCE IN A POLYBUTADIENE MATERIAL</b>  |                                       |                                    |                                |                                |                   |
| <b>TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b>   |                                       |                                    |                                |                                |                   |
| Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.<br>The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.   |                                       |                                    |                                |                                |                   |
| <b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>  |                                       |                                    |                                |                                |                   |
|   | CLAIMS REMAINING<br>AFTER AMENDMENT   | HIGHEST #<br>PREV. PAID FOR        | NUMBER EXTRA<br>CLAIMS PRESENT | RATE                           | ADDITIONAL<br>FEE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS  | 91 -                                  | 91 =                               | 0 x                            | \$18.00                        | \$0.00            |
| INDEP. CLAIMS   | 14 -                                  | 14 =                               | 0 x                            | \$84.00                        | \$0.00            |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>  |                                       |                                    |                                |                                | \$0.00            |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT   |                                       |                                    |                                |                                | \$0.00            |
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____<br/>           A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.<br/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>02-1818</b>.<br/>           A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.<br/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.<br/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.         </div> <div style="width: 35%; text-align: right;">           Dated: <b>March 26, 2003</b> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <br/>           Signature<br/> <b>Joseph A. Fuchs, Reg. No. 34,604</b><br/> <b>BELL, BOYD &amp; LLOYD LLC</b><br/> <b>P.O. Box 1135</b><br/> <b>Chicago, IL 60690-1135</b><br/> <b>Tel: (312) 807-4335</b> </div> <div style="width: 35%; text-align: right;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">             I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on <b>March 26, 2003</b> with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.           </div> <br/>           Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence<br/> <b>R bert J. Buccieri</b><br/>           Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence         </div> </div> </div> |                                       |                                    |                                |                                |                   |

CC:



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application Of:  
Ding et al.

For: METHOD AND PROCESS FOR  
ENHANCING PROPERTIES AND  
MEDICAL TUBING PERFORMANCE  
IN A POLYBUTADIENE MATERIAL

Serial No.: 09/939,294

Filed: August 24, 2001

Examiner: Sandra M. Nolan

Art Unit: 1774

Conf. No. 2541

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Office  
with sufficient postage as first class mail in an  
envelope addressed to: BOX NON FEE  
AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 26, 2003.

Robert J. Buccieri

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

APR 03 2003

GROUP 1700

Sir:

Please enter the following Response to Restriction Requirement in the above-identified  
patent application.

REMARKS

This reply is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on February 26, 2003,  
with a shortened statutory response period of one (1) month from the mailing date. Accordingly,  
this Response is timely filed.

Claims 1-91 are pending in this Application. The Examiner has entered an  
Election/Restriction requirement requiring Applicants to select for prosecution one of four  
groups of claims.

- I. Claims 1-16, drawn to polymer blends, classified in class 525, subclass  
(unknown).